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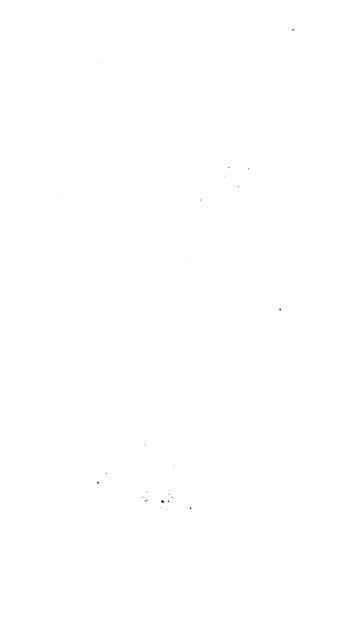
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LETTER

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FRIENDLY REMONSTRANCE

THE REV. F. OAKELEY, M.A.

CALLET BY MALLIN, COLUMN AND MA.

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AN ENGLISH CATHOLIC AND CONVERT.

THOMAS BICHARDSON AND BONG

Price Sammer



Can: Paran Keyl

LETTER de store

OF

FRIENDLY REMONSTRANCE

TO

THE REV. F. OAKELEY, M.A.

FELLOW OF BALLIOL COLLEGE, &c. &c.

RY

AN ENGLISH CATHOLIC AND CONVERT.

LONDON: THOMAS RICHARDSON AND SON. 172, FLEET-STREET. 1845.

1302.2.3.



ERRATA.

Page 10, line 14, for dilemna, read diler Page 23, line 12, for are so subtle, read QUANTUS TREMOR EST FUTURUS, QUANDO JUDEX EST VENTURUS, CUNCTA STRICTÈ DISCUSSURUS!

TUBA MIRUM SPARGENS SONUM, PER SEPULCRA REGIONUM, COGET OMNES ANTE THRONUM.

QUI MARIAM ABSOLVISTI ET LATRONEM EXAUDISTI MIHI QUOQUE SPEM DEDISTI.

SEQUENTIA IN MISSIS PRO DEFUNCTIS.



LETTER.

Sir,

In addressing you anonymously as I do. it may be right to explain to you my reasons for writing at all on what is to be the subject matter of this letter, and then to explain further why I have selected you as the person to whom I should address it. My reasons for writing may, in part, be presumed from the description which I give of myself on my title page; for it is not to be supposed that a convert to the Catholic Faith can be an uninterested spectator of such proceedings as have of late been notorious in Oxford and the Church of England. But not every convert writes. I write, because, in the absence of other persons better qualified than myself, I feel no impropriety in breaking a silence which I have hitherto maintained, in order to give you, and others who think with you, the opportunity of knowing what is felt for you Church and the University of (I have selected you in preference person, both on account of you relation to Oxford and Mr. Waccount of your recent letter to f London. And when I assure you credit for every good, hor notive, which either you or your lesire for you, I hope I shall by you and by them, of any the ffensive spirit in what I am gound having premised this, I shall to speak with all proper boldne opics where I foresee that bold ecessary for me as a writer.

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I understand Mr. Ward and yourself rightly. there is a knot of persons in the Established Church, including yourselves, who have embraced what you consider to be the whole cycle of Roman Doctrine. I say, what you consider to be, for I shall presently show that you have in fact not embraced the whole cycle of Roman Doctrine; for that, if you had, you for one would not be holding any of those offices, either in the Established Church or at Oxford, of which you now describe yourself as the possessor. However, you consider vourself to hold this doctrine, and to hold it rightly, that is to say, without prejudice to the honesty and truthfulness of your subscription to the thirty-nine articles, and generally to the propriety of your remaining Fellow of your College and Minister in the Established But with this holding of Roman Doctrine, you connect also another view, namely, that you may hold it, and not teach it, indeed that you are not entitled to teach it, and that to teach it, would, as you declare in your letter to the Bishop of London, "most emphatically, that you do Roman Doctrine in Margare the other hand, that you do it. Now this is the view to not misrepresented it, as I have not, I wish to draw y being one, which excites in (of the deepest astonishmeteration.

The whole cycle of Roma pounded to the belief of the land and every Catholic coun is contained in that sum known as the creed of Pope say, no more is required of an who may read this letter, to add that I do not mean that Catholic doctrine may not be pursued, and is not pursued, very far beyond the simple statements of that creed. For, inasmuch as Dogmatic Theology is the greatest, the deepest, the most inexhaustible of all sciences, we may venture indeed to say that no one human mind will ever find a limit to the extent of that cycle of Roman doctrine within which you imagine that you have placed yourself. But, as I said, all is contained, either explicitly or by implication, in Pope Pius's Creed: and of no convert, whether learned or untaught, is any other profession of Faith required. Let us then turn to this Creed.

It begins, as you well know, with the recital of the Nicene Creed; the very first sentence after which is this, "I most steadfastly admit and embrace apostolical and ecclesiastical traditions, and all other observances and constitutions of the same Church"—that is, the Roman. Supposing, therefore, that you are able to say that you embrace apostolical and ecclesiastical traditions, can you also say

length into specification; but ain from asking you, with bour ishment, whether you can at once time continue to declare that ce the whole cycle of Roman doce neglect that multitude of observatiutions, to the neglect of which as Minister of the establishe ds you. And you must not encape from the force of this dilemn; that these observances and constituters of practice rather than indeed they are conversant and even supposing, what is not the



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nd embraced. But, indeed, this preliminary tatement is, as it were, generic to all that ollow. Those that follow are to it in the haracter of specifications, and of some of hese I will say a few words.

Do you then "profess that there are truly nd properly seven Sacraments of the new law, nstituted by Jesus Christ our Lord, and neessary for the salvation of mankind, though ot all for every one, to wit, Baptism, Confirnation, the Eucharist, Penance, Extreme Uncon, Order, and Matrimony, and that they onfer grace;" and do you "also receive and dmit the received and approved ceremonies f the Catholic Church used in the solemnizaon of the aforesaid Sacraments?" and do you rofess likewise, that in the Mass there is ofred to God a true, proper, and propitiatory acrifice for the living and the dead; and that the most holy Sacrament of the Eucharist iere is truly, really, and substantially the ody and Blood, together with the Soul and ivinity of our Lord Jesus Christ; and that tere is made a conversion of the whole sub-

vatrolic Ch. transubstantiation? Do you also con under either kind alone, CHRIST is whole and entire, and a true Sa Again, do you affirm that the power gences was left by CHRIST in the Chu that the use of them is most whole Christian people? Above all, do you ledge the holy Catholie, Apostolie, Church for the Mother and Mistress Churches; and do you promise true.ob o the Bishop of Rome, successor of St. nd Vicar of Jesus Christ? I am excer nxious to avoid even the appearance (nanner of argument, if so it can be hich consists in flinging as :.

formal manner, part of that epitome of the cycle of Roman doctrine to which all Catholics at once refer as the final summary of their faith. I know no other means by which I can so fully express my astonishment at your position, and to a great extent my own entire inability to understand you in your occupying it.

Before going any farther, let me take this opportunity of showing you, as I said I would, that you have not embraced the whole cycle of Roman doctrine. Whatever else you may have done, however accurately you may believe the true doctrine of the Sacraments of the Church, and however great your yearnings may be to a reconciliation with Christendom and its centre, yet it is abundantly clear that you have not yet admitted practically (and a theoretical admission alone would at once involve a directly sinful act if persisted in.) that the Roman Church is the Mother and Mistress of all others; that you are not in obedience to the successor of St. Peter. Prince of the Apostles and Vicar of Jesus Christ; and accordingly that what Catholics consider as as yours as the result of a blindnindeed all our pity and all our and our prayers, but none of a If you say that you embrace Ro as fully as you do, we expect of own sake, that you should embrace propounds, not as you select it, person, hitherto a Catholic, open in England, or elsewhere, that he olic in everything but obedience t and that he acknowledged the dof the Catholic Church in everyth mission to the See of Rome, can that he would be regarded for one as a Catholic, or would be allowed.



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those who think with you, whose only claim upon her can be, that of complete and entire submission? You do not at this moment belong to Her; you never have belonged to Her; you are members of a religious society, not only not in communion with Her, but, for three centuries, most actively and offensively hostile. The blood of Catholic martyrs, of Priests and Laity, executed like malefactors for no other crime than that they were Catholics, still lies hanging over England unrepented of, and all but gloried in. Belonging to such a communion, God has given you grace, nevertheless, to advance so far as to say that you embrace all Roman Doctrine; yet, when your profession comes to be examined, we find that the snare which first entangled Cranmer and the leaders of the melancholy schism, retains its hold on you; that you are still insular, and national, and independent in your feelings, and reject that Supremacy by which the whole cycle of Roman Doctrine is knit together in the yoke of Jesus Christ.

ly, obedience to the See ar Peter, which it is morally i can have received. You he Roman doctrine: why do how? You hold it, no dou thought, study, conviction, prayer, aided and directed, sure, by the grace of God. as a great body of truth, t appreciation of which is of if you have found a benefit ceeding any benefit which or could have hoped to derive



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learning from you, and for whom you doubtless consider yourself in some measure responsible, to be deprived of that spiritual food which has approved itself to you as part and parcel of Divine Truth. It seems, indeed, a cruel case, both for you and for them. You cannot think Roman doctrine a thing indifferent, or you would not so zealously, and in the face of scandal so obvious, be now maintaining it. But are the congregation of Margaret chapel not to think it indifferent? Are they to suppose that their minister incurs considerable popular odium at Oxford and in London, for the sake of doctrine, which he, nevertheless. considers so unessential to salvation, as that they need never hear it?

And with regard to them, and with regard to your own practice, let us consider a little farther the subject which was called in the British Critic, "Sacramental Confession," and the Indulgences, of which I have before spoken. Your own practice in relation to these points could not fail to be teaching to those spiritally subject to you, were it known. Whether

ing then, as you do, the Roman c you in the habit from time to tim ing your sins to a Priest; at all ev year at Easter-tide? If you do not even hold Roman doctrine; if you allow your practice to be known, forth teach Roman doctrine; for I serve by the way, that although lished Church undoubtedly sanct mental Confession as a preparation and, under special circumstances, for Communion, yet she gives no sance ever to the stated practice of Communion.

or whether you conceal your practice, it is clear that you attach an idea of great importance to what you do. I say it is clear, because it is not possible to suppose that you should undertake the performance of such a duty without the deepest conviction of its conformity to the will of God, and of its necessity for yourself.

But this is not all. Roman doctrine proceeds to teach the faithful that when the guilt of sin is remitted by Sacramental Absolution. there yet remains due to God a satisfaction for it. In other words, temporal punishmentthe punishment due to our sins is not remitted by the Sacrament of Penance, and then Indulgences come in, from the same fountain of mercy whence issues absolution of guilt, to complete the cure of the soul, and to prevent and forestal the payment of our debt to Almighty God. These are granted to Catholics on the fulfilment of certain conditions, at certain stated periods of the year: one of these conditions always being a previous Sacramental Confession. Now, I cannot imagine

unigonees, is a part of it. . FC obtain an Indulgence? None whom you act, supposing even Priests, could grant an Indu suppose it is hardly necessary whether any Anglican bishop moment give ear to you or an should ask him to grant one. gence is not in your power to g olic Priest would knowingly d you at confession until you] vourself to the Church; and made your confession to a Cathe could not receive the Indulge your "holding" of Roman do case appears to me entirely a de

are the congregation of Margaret chapel to be debarred from this great avenue to holy life and future happiness? Why, if you consider yourself a Priest, do you not at once offer to receive persons at confession? And if you cannot obtain for yourself and for them Indulgences in the usual routine, why do you not busy yourself in procuring that benefit at the expense of every earthly consideration? Not to teach your congregation Roman doctrine on such points as these, not to influence them by your example and by your exhortation, when your own convictions are so decided as you represent them to be, cannot be praiseworthy. however innocent your intentions may be. Innocent I fully believe them to be. And because they are so, I am the more earnestly anxious that you should see the unreality and the danger of your situation, and, as it were. fly to a Zoar, before the angels have left talking with you.

And this brings me to question with you your grounds for remaining as you are.

There appeared in the British Critic, & few

of the first, if not the very writers and thinkers of our carticle at the time of its appropriates attention; and on lacame to the conclusion, that mate skill and dispositions produce no firmer scheme for established Church to rest upmust be a very weak one. I capround, and the ground of the with you, as represented by the have mentioned, and by Mr. yourself, may be described as find yourselves, you say, born what you consider a particular

it contains, in a very large number of its ministers, a body of active and energetic heresy: yet because, as you say, Providence has placed you where you are, you think it right to remain there, even after you suppose vourselves to have embraced all Roman Doctrine. But, for what do you stay? You speak in your letter to the Bishop of London very truly and very affectingly of the breaking of ties of all kinds, and the obliteration of the associations of a life. The influence of these are so subtle, as you yourself intimate, that it may exercise itself on us undetected. But I do you the justice to believe that, great as the struggle might be, these are not things which would really detain you when you had clearly perceived your path of duty. For what then do you stay? I cannot help feeling that you cling to the hope that the established Church really is a Church, that you are a Priest, and that bread and wine in your hands, for instance, becomes the Adorable Sacrament; and that it may please God, by the means of you and your friends. -vouit would be? that w

distinction foreign courtesy m English gentlemen, they would say Mass they must be Pri Priests they must receive O Catholic Bishops?

Let me illustrate the case of orders, from a supposed case to which English eyes have of la much turned. Let us suppose t gium, now so happily and so deve olic, so full of faith and good wo. of ceaseless services and religious li one day revolt under the guidance o. king or queen from union with +1. Suppose the 1

Clergy, in opposition to the will of nearly every other clergyman in the kingdom, and in consequence of the expulsion of many of them. There is no doubt. Canonists would tell you. that though all jurisdiction was gone, the succession would, under these circumstances, be preserved in the midst of heresy, provided also that an office by which orders could be conferred were used by the heretical prelates in the administration of that Sacrament. But let us suppose after a short time that the then Archbishop of Malines and his suffragan should devise an entirely new ordinal, varying in nearly every essential point from all forms known to christianity. The persons consecrated and ordained with such an ordinal, although consecrated and ordained by persons who had once been Catholic Bishops, would fail in order as well as jurisdiction, and be merely heretical laymen. And this last is your present position. Archbishop Parker, the first Protestant Archbishop of this country, was said to be consecrated by four Bishops. It is unnecessary to go into the case of any of the crated. But he had no jurisc solemn act, which the Church a period of Christianity would he for an hour. His pretended juceded solely from a lay person of enormity, a woman. He had pretence of possessing a bisl time; and if he had possessed have been no plea against offence of presuming to exercis in obedience to the command though a queen; and in direct cally to the Hely See but to



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such advantage as you can make out of the melancholy fact that Barlow was a bishop. But the finger of God was against you, and your then rulers were struck with blindness at a moment when they apparently had it in their power to perpetuate a real, though heretical and schismatical succession. Instead of reviving the ancient ordinal, they took that of Edward VI. by which nothing could be conferred, and in which there did not even appear a distinction between the degrees of Bishop and Priest. This defect which I have specified, was remedied, as you well know, a hundred years after, after the Savoy conference, but then too late. By this vain, modern, inoperative office, attempt was made to confer on Parker the degree of Archbishop. By it no character of sacred orders was conferred, and Parker remained as he was, a Priest. From him, as you well know, all the supposed orders of the established Church at this hour are derived. I need hardly repeat that in fact no orders are derived.

Now, if all this which I have briefly sum-

whose duty it is to listen. You ating heresy, schism and null are yet assuring us that you Roman Catholic doctrine. If yourself, and are as bold as I am you are honest, you will not be passing over this great matter in and in virtue of the acquiescen the people of these kingdoms; be guided by the decision of the whole cycle of doctrine you prembraced; recollecting this, that of your allegiance to the establis London, (for courtesy sake I use

said, suffer me, in conclusion, to speak of the present state of things in the shed Church of England and in the y generally. You have yourself alluded ate occurrences in the diocese of Exeter. real value of the observances ordered Bishop of Exeter no one can have a estimate than myself. But what are ay of the party calling themselves the certain places in that diocese? These nen, how truly it is not for me to say, themselves to be attached members of cablished Church; and rather conspir assign their attachment as a reason for t to which England has seen no parallel he grand rebellion, or those days when wn reformers set the great original e of ecclesiastical contumacy in this , which has since and now recoiled upon ads of their successors. Wearing the in the pulpit, collecting alms for the uring the offertory, and saying the for the Church Militant, and this in ice to rubrical authority and law, and

state. You have—and I see the of the 27th of February last, Norwich congratulates you on the you have a laity which has downwhether the clergy have a diving the laity certainly has. They lating themselves in various paradom, and the most influential docongratulated them in turn, that have ecclesiastical matters in keeping. It has really come to that if one of your clergy obey and in so doing displeases his confirmable hooted out with innoce glory to those who have had a set.

r conceive a stronger note of Anti-Christ this rebellious and disobedient spirit. In atholic Church it could not exist a week. the miserable fomenters of such disturs and rabblements, were such ever to through latent heretics, would be at once if and separated from the faithful chilles Christ. But with us, such things are impossible; for our rubrics and formulare not ambiguous, and none of us the melancholy task of speaking with imering lips," or endeavouring to do enjoined by the Church, but forbidden laity.

sider then, let me entreat you, whether distence of such a spirit in your establishment is not a token of Goo's anger against against you. The spirit is not a new one, as slumbered more or less as a concealed note the "Reformation" till now, burst-t occasionally with the greatest violence. cially embittered by far the greater part sabeth's impious and bloody reign. It litself in the "prophesyings" of the Diocese vich, and the steady resistance of the re-

tianity. William of Orange fin Patron. In the present crisis its ancient fierce and aggressive comparative repose of a centur Such a spirit, never extinguis ready to come forth, ought to at the gravest matter for conside sons who are involved in a systit enters. I know that you ab hatred not inferior to my own; I

I have now said what, after n I was convinced it was right say. I hope in so doing, I h ward nothing in a manner more the nature of the the

Hooker, Andrews, Mountague, Laud, Gunning, Hammond, Thorndike, the Non-jurors, and any others who have since appeared in that character, or have been supposed to do so-even Dr. Pusey, perhaps even Mr. Newman, have each in their degree stopped short of that open uncompromising profession of unanimity in doctrine with the Holy Catholic Church, with which you by a most happy inconsistency have astonished the world, and I will hope, laid the foundation of everlasting benefit to yourselves. With the heartiest good will, then, and an interest which no other position could excite for you, I offer you, with the deepest sense of my own personal unworthiness, these few words of friendly and plain remonstrance. For my own sake, as well as for yours, in the sight of God, I will hope that they may not be entirely fruitless.

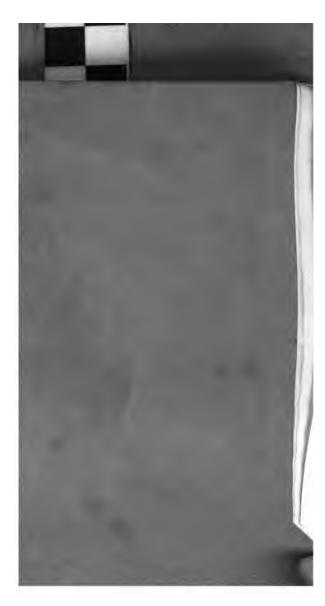
I am, Sir,

most faithfully yours,

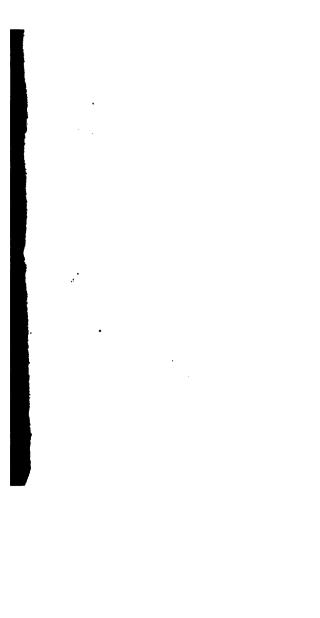
AN ENGLISH CATHOLIC AND CONVERT.

Sunday, Feast of St. Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, 1845.



























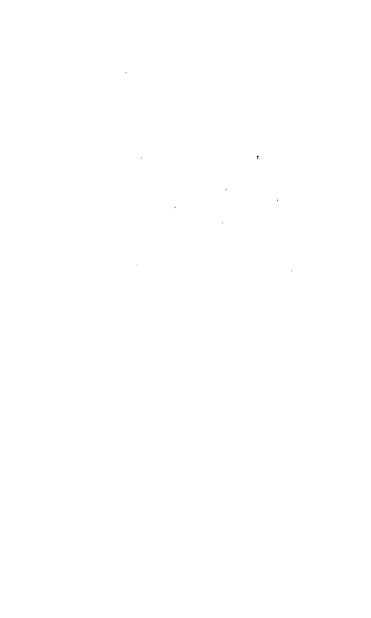






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